

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 208832

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APPROVED BY S/S - MR. GAMMON

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 208832

E. O. N/A

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S DINNER FOR GROMYKO: PROPOSED TOAST

TAGS: UNGA, UR, US, OVIP

ATTENTION: S/S - ALAN MCKEE

BEGIN TEXT: MR. FOREIGN MINISTER. ALLOW ME TO EXPRESS MY PERSONAL PLEASURE AT BEING ABLE TO AGAIN ENJOY THE COMPANY OF YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES. IT HAS BEEN, AFTER ALL, FOUR DAYS SINCE OUR LAST LENGTHY CONTACT AND I WAS BEGINNING TO BECOME CONCERNED OVER THE LACK OF CLOSE CONSULATION DURING THAT PERIOD.

I HAVE NOT BEEN IDLE DURING THE PAST WEEK, BUT HAVE, IN FACT, EMBARKED ON CONSULTATIONS WITH THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE. I AM HAPPY TO REPORT THAT THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS TOOK PLACE IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF FRANKNESS AND MUTUAL RESPECT. WHILE IT MAY BE PREMATURE TO HOPE FOR THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF A FRIENDSHIP TREATY BETWEEN THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE AND ME OR EVEN FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A COMMUNIQUE FOR THAT MATTER, I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO MY NEXT OPEN SESSION WITH THE COMMITTEE WHICH I HAVE SCHEDULED FOR LATE 1976.

MR. FOREIGN MINISTER, IT IS GOOD THAT YOU HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MEET THE PRESIDENT SO EARLY IN THE BEGINNING OF HIS

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PAGE 02 STATE 208832

ADMINISTRATION. YOU HAVE HEARD HIS PERSONAL REASSURANCES

ABOUT THE MOTIVATION AND THE DIRECTION OF OUR FOREIGN

POLICY. WE WILL CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS TO DEVELOP OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND TO REACH AN UNDERSTANDING, WHEREVER HUMANLY POSSIBLE, ON THOSE COMPLEX ISSUES OF SUCH IMPORTANCE TO BOTH OF OUR COUNTRIES AND TO THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD. I DO NOT HIDE OR ATTEMPT TO EXPLAIN AWAY OUR DIFFERENCES: THEY ARE REAL AND THEY ARE NOT LIKELY TO GO AWAY. BUT AFTER ALL, PROGRESS IS SOMETIMES OBTAINED ONLY BY THE UTMOST FRANKNESS IN DISCUSSING THESE ISSUES AND IT IS NO MEAN ACHIEVEMENT TO HAVE REACHED THAT STAGE IN OUR RELATIONSHIP, AND INDEED, THAT STAGE IN OUR PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP, WHERE WE CAN DO JUST THAT.

MR. FOREIGN MINISTER, I VALUE THAT RELATIONSHIP AND I APPRECIATE THE ROLE WHICH YOU HAVE PLAYED IN ITS CONSTRUCTION. GENTLEMEN: A TOAST TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER AS A FRIEND AND AS A COLLEAGUE. KISSINGER

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